

**AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: OCTOBER 21, 2009**

**DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

**DIRECTOR: BILL ARENT, ACTING**

☒ **Consent** ☐ **Discussion**

**SUBJECT:**

Approval of a grant award in the amount of \$300,000 from the Nevada Commission for Cultural Affairs to the City of Las Vegas for rehabilitation of the historic Federal Building-United States Post Office for reuse as a museum located at 300 Stewart Avenue - Ward 5 (Barlow)

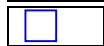
**Fiscal Impact**



**No Impact**



**Augmentation Required**



**Budget Funds Available**

**Amount:**

**Funding Source:**

**Dept./Division:**

**PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:**

This Nevada Commission for Cultural Affairs grant award to the City of Las Vegas, through the State Historic Preservation Office, will be used to continue rehabilitation work to the historic Federal Building-United States Post Office (aka, Las Vegas Post Office) by implementing exhibit space preparation work needed to allow for the installation of museum exhibits and further the process to convert the Las Vegas Post Office for reuse as a museum and cultural center.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approval.

**BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:**

Grant Award Letter

Motion made by STEVE WOLFSON to Approve

Passed For: 5; Against: 1; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

RICKI Y. BARLOW, LOIS TARKANIAN, STEVE WOLFSON, GARY REESE, STEVEN D. ROSS; (Against-STAVROS S. ANTHONY); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-OSCAR B. GOODMAN)

Minutes:

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY believed that the \$300,000 grant award would be better used for other cultural affairs projects within the City.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN understood the Councilman's concern, having heard similar remarks from citizens. She explained that the grant award was allocated specifically for the museum renovations and she strongly supports that; however, she reiterated that this project is essentially about the history of law enforcement.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: OCTOBER 21, 2009**

Responding to COUNCILMAN ROSS, BILL ARENT, Acting Director of the Office of Business Development, affirmed that the \$300,000 grant from the Nevada Commission will be used specifically for interior renovations of partitions and walls, architectural treatment, painting, exhibit space preparation work, and a number of other infrastructure repair and construction.

MR. ARENT also mentioned that there were other monies awarded throughout the State as part of the Commission for Cultural Affairs Grant Program and the \$300,000 was just ten percent of the entire subsidy.

CITY MANAGER ELIZABETH FRETWELL explained that the grant funds cannot be redirected. The City submitted the application to the State for funding and support over several years and has been very successful in obtaining financial assistance well over \$2 million to fund this project. CITY MANAGER FRETWELL stated that the Council has the prerogative of rejecting the award, but the money cannot be redirected to other projects.

COUNCILMAN WOLFSON added that the City is not withdrawing any money from the General Fund; instead, the grant money is expressly earmarked for the museum project.

NANCY DEANER, Office of Cultural Affairs, confirmed that as the money is spent, invoices are submitted to the State, who in turn, reimburses the City for all expenses. MS. DEANER also noted that in comparison to Northern Nevada and rural areas of the State, Southern Nevada, over the last five years, has finally had an opportunity to receive grant awards.

See Item 12 for related discussion.

